Project Misc
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MEMORANDUM FOR: Assistant for Coordination

SUBJECT : Scientific and Technical Intelligence Collection

REFERENCE : Top Secret memorandum dated 15 December 1961 to
Chairman, United States Intelligence Board from
Assistant for Coordination, subj: "Scientific and
Technical Intelligence - General (Recommenda-
tion No. 15 of the October 4, 1961 Report to the
President by the President's Foreign Intelligence
Advisory Board)"

1. On reviewing the referenced document and its attachments, I recognize
immediately that measures for improving the over-all collection of scientific
and technical intelligence capabilities of the Soviet Bloc will depend upon funds
not readily estimable and perhaps not available, but which certainly could be
of considerable magnitude. If the USIB approves the recommendations, their
implementation will depend much upon the availability of funds.

2. I have some reservation concerning the assessment paper's sugges-
tion for accelerating the machine translation capability which would "......
require considerable amounts of additional funds before this capability is
fully realized." As recently as November 14, barely a month ago, the Agency's
Advisory Committee on Mechanical Linguistics questioned the quality of the
machine-produced output, in addition to the cost and time required to post-
edit the product, and recommended to the DD/I that the Agency cease support
of the ██████████████████ mechanical translation output, and that the
Agency should consider supporting production runs only when prior evaluation
of any system concludes that the Agency needs and can profit by such runs
from a time/cost basis. For example, machine translations, so far, have
proved to cost more than two times as much as human translations.

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/s/

L. K. White
Deputy Director
(Support)